



The Mid-South *Baptist*

December, 2017
Vol. 13, Issue 12

The MSBA staff would like to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



Local Pastors Elected at Convention

Messenger to the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Hendersonville elected new officers to the convention during the opening session of the annual meeting on November 14. Dr. David Leavell, senior pastor of First Baptist Church, Millington, was elected president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention for 2018. Leavell currently serves as a director of the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board. He was a member of the 2017 Committee on Resolutions for the Southern Baptist Convention and is a trustee of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.



Dr. Brian Carmichael, senior pastor of Holy Temple Baptist Church was elected second vice-president.

The Mid-South Baptist Association would like to extend congratulations to both pastors on these new offices. Please pray for these men and their families as they serve throughout the state in the coming year. The MSBA is blessed to have these men ministering in the Mid-South.

Important Dates for December

- 4 Ministers' Conference – 11:30 a.m.
Bellevue Baptist Church
Mitch Martin, speaker
- 4 Team of Intercessors Meeting - 1:00 p.m.
Bellevue Baptist Church - FH
- 5 MSBA Staff Meeting – 9:30 a.m.
MSBA Office
- 5 Church Starting Team Meeting - 1 p.m.
MSBA Office
- 11 Ministers' Conference – 11:30 a.m.
Bellevue Baptist Church
David Leavell, speaker
- 18 Ministers' Conference – 11:30 a.m.
Bellevue Baptist Church
Christmas Music
- 20 Focus Church Training - 10:00 a.m.
Berclair Baptist Church
- 22 MSBA Office Closed for the Holiday - It will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

MSBA Mailing Address

1157 N. Collierville Arlington Road
Collierville, TN 38017



JACK MAY OFFERING

Received to Date: \$3,205.80

The Jack May Offering continues to come in. Please consider giving generously to this offering. This year's offering will support Pastor and Wife Ambassador Teams responsible for ministering to the ministers of the association. All donations can be sent to the MSBA Office at 1157 N. Collierville Arlington Road, Collierville, TN 38017. Thank you for your support of this offering.

Opportunities Within Our Churches

Youth Pastor

Carriage Hills Baptist Church, Southaven (P/T)
Send resumes to Carriage Hills Baptist Church, Youth Search Committee, 8352 Farmington Drive W., Southaven, MS 38671, or email to carriagehills@att.net.

Crossroads Baptist Church, Arlington (P/T)
Send resume to david.etheridge64@att.net,

Congregational Music Director

Lakeland First Baptist Church
Send resume to Pastor Chris Hodges at chodges@lakelandfbc.org or call 901-230-1085 if interested.

Children's Minister/Director

Fayette Baptist Church (F/T)
Send resume to Jon Gambrell, 12465 Highway 64, Somerville, TN 38068, or email jon@fayettebaptist.com.

Lakeland First Baptist Church (P/T)
Send resume to Pastor Chris Hodges at chodges@lakelandfbc.org.

Nursery Worker/Childcare/Preschool

Balmoral Baptist Church (M-F: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.)
Contact Connie at 901-754-2302.

Leawood Baptist Church (P/T)
Contact the church office at 901-324-7169 to schedule an interview.

Pianist

Gracepoint Baptist Church
Send resume to rredd@me.com.

Special Needs Ministry Director

Longview Heights Baptist Church (F/T)
Send resume to alan@lhbc.me.

Secretary

Ardmore Terrace Baptist Church (P/T)
Send resume to Sb1young@yahoo.com.

Trafalgar Village Daycare Center
Call 901-388-2060 for more information.

If you have filled a position, please contact the Association office at 901-373-6161.

NAMB Adult Reading and Writing Workshop

January 12 - 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
January 13 - 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
MSBA Office

Cost: \$30
(includes all materials)

Bring a sack lunch.
Water, drinks & chips provided.

To register, email your name, address and church name to minne@dsg.us.



Focus on Church Starting

Art Groomes
Church Starting

Church Starting and Christmas

Christmas is the season to reflect on our Savior's birth and all that it means. God came to dwell among us! He took on flesh and was born as a baby in Bethlehem of Judea. He came to save us from sin and give us abundant life. He came to give us what we needed most, new birth, and a new life. He came to fix everything that was damaged and broken by sin. That is the good news people are waiting to hear.

As we celebrate Christ's coming into the world this Christmas season, I hope that the amazing story of his birth in the fullness of time will cause us to praise God for all he has done in church starts during the year and motivate us to do more than ever before in the coming year. By God's grace and according to his will, may we strive to reach those who have not placed their trust in Christ. May we move beyond that which is mundane and material to communicate the most life changing message in the world – Jesus saves! May this Christmas season be filled with the joy of Jesus! May we all proclaim the hope, peace, and joy that is found in Christ alone. That is what church starting is all about. Contact MSBA for information on church starting.

Merry Christmas!



Church Strengthening Through Kingdom Advancement

Ron Roy
Church Strengthening Coordinator

Leadership for Church Strengthening #1

Nehemiah is a brilliant case study of modeling interpersonal relationship skills while completing a designated task. He demonstrated a healthy blend of being both task oriented, while at the same time developing people. The whole process of building the wall and gates for Jerusalem's protection was accomplished through people when they gave priority to the task.

Examining Nehemiah's Leadership DNA, we learn valuable church strengthening principles:

- He was faithful as a cupbearer, builder and governor. This was noted last month as his prayer focus was highlighted in the newsletter.
- Scripture was at the center of his leadership and shaped how he served in each capacity he was given. He was a spiritual leader.
- He knew the importance of celebration, praise and giving God all the glory.
- He could see the big picture, and communicate it to others with passion.
- He was a highly focused leader. His end vision didn't waver or change. You can see this in almost every chapter.
- He was a hands-on leader, a servant who led by example. He identified with those he was leading and challenging.
- He was a strategic thinker and careful planner who prepared well and delegated tasks.
- He was organized and gave attention to detail and record keeping,

Nehemiah strengthened himself and the people as they remained committed to God and the task until it was finished. These principles are also necessary for any church which desires to be strengthened.



Focus on Legacy Giving

Bob Dawkins
MSBA Foundation Member



This is Your Planning Minute

Here are some simple ideas to protect your loved ones and create your legacy. With just a little planning, you can have peace of mind knowing you have taken care of your family and secured their future.

One of the most effective ways to care for your family is with a current estate plan. If your own property, have dependents or have recently experienced life changes, you will want to visit an estate planning attorney to create or update your Last Will and Testament, Health Care Directive, etc. The good news is you can do much of the planning yourself. You can designate beneficiaries for your retirement assets and insurance plans by completing a simple form. You can also add family members to your savings or investment account so that funds will pass to them. Charitable bequests can be made very easily to your church.

Contact the MSBA office at 901-373-6161 to be connected with a member of the MSB Foundation.



Free Training for Your Church For:

Disciple Making

- Simple ways to identify and connect with the lost
- Simple ways to start spiritual conversations and share the gospel
- A way to teach new believers how to obey Jesus
- How to lead a discovery Bible study for those interested in Jesus
- How to train others to make disciples

Church Planting

- Zero budget church planting
- How to find willing church planters in your church
- How to form a church planting team from your church
- How to find a target to start a new church
- How to help new believers form community
- How to help a new church grow towards health and multiply

Mobilization

- How to help those desiring to be missionaries get prepared
- Develop a sending pipeline from your church to the unreached
- Looking into resources for missionaries to get from point A to point B
- Forming missionary teams in the Memphis Metro Area or another city

Interested in one or more of these trainings for your ministry or church? Email Zach Medlock at zach@nplmem.org for more information.

Local Mission Opportunity

God has truly blessed Pastor Lee Wilkins and the entire Next Level Cathedral of Praise family. Within recent weeks they have found a place of worship to call home. It is located at 1581 Ball Road, Memphis, 38114. The church sits on 2 acres of land and the sanctuary is equipped to hold about 300 people comfortably. It has some work that needs to be done to get the facility ready to invite and minister to God's people. They are seeking help from sister churches in the association to help with the labor.

Tasks they need assistance with:

- New roof (62 squares) and steeple repair
- Repair roof cornices
- Air condition and heating units
- Flooring (tile and carpet)
- Restroom renovations (total tear out)
- Interior painting
- Sheetrock replacement
- Landscaping and lawn maintenance
- Parking lot overlay and striping
- Handicap ramp inside building
- Install interior office
- Install interior door
- Water fountain
- Musical Instruments and Sound System

If you or your church can help, please contact Next Level Cathedral of Praise at 901-238-1307.

Church Planters Residency

The No Place Left Memphis Network is hosting a 9 month church planters residency. Trainings are at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary from March through December during 2018.

The cohort is designed to help the every day believer learn through classroom instruction and "hands on" training for how to multiply the kingdom. Comprehension and application of biblical, field-tested, simple, and reproducible tools for multiplying disciples and churches in progression of the fulfillment of Matthew 24:14. Identify and apply missional strategies for engaging the lost, sharing the gospel, discipling groups and individuals, gathering believers in new communities/churches, and developing reproducing leaders. Eighty percent of the training that will happen is on the job training in the field of every day life.

If you are interested in more details, email Chelsea Cleary at chelsea.a.cleary@gmail.com.

Module week dates will be on the website soon at <http://www.nplmem.org/cohort/>.

Church Resources

Unity Baptist Church is giving away approximately 20 church pews to a church or mission that needs them. You will need to pick them up. Contact Lee Barclay at 901-233-2737 if you are interested.

Colonial Baptist Church would like to donate a new scanner to a church that needs it. Contact the church at 901-682-6644 for information about picking it up.

Kirby Woods Baptist Church has a 25 passenger mini bus for sale. It has 42,500 miles; A/C and luggage compartment. The price is \$12,000. If interested, contact the church at 901-682-2220.

Mid-South Baptist Secretaries Association Quarterly Meeting Luncheon

*Thursday, December 7, 2017
Noon
\$5 per person*

The Gathering Place
Millington First Baptist Church
5010 West Union Road,
Millington 38053

Please RSVP to Bevelyn Bishop at 901-743-5067 or email crbc@cherryroadbaptist.org by December 4.

Mid-South Baptist Association Missionary Kid Assignment

*Joseph Leech, Sophomore
Birthday - June 27*

Mailing Address:

Joseph Leech
Union University
UU 560

1050 Union University Drive
Jackson, TN 38305

Email: joseph.leech@my.uu.edu

Resources Needed

True Fellowship Baptist is in need of room dividers or partitions. If you have some to donate, please contact Tammy Scott at 901-832-3301 or 901-398-3332 or scotttammyt@yahoo.com.

River Nile Baptist Church is in need of a used van for their ministry. If you have one to donate or sell, please contact Dale Gravatt at 901-324-7169 or edaleg48@gmail.com.



Mission 901

Danny Spurlock
Volunteer Coordinator

Hello my fellow Mid-South Baptists!

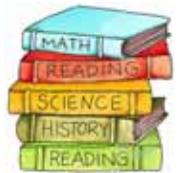
My name is Danny Spurlock, and I am the new volunteer Mission 901 Coordinator for the MSBA! Darla Richardson (who has served faithfully for more than 3 years) is stepping down to work full-time with refugees in the mid-south. Thanks for your service my friend!

A few things about me: I serve as pastor at Mullins Station Baptist Church. I also served for 10 years at Ellendale Baptist as Missions Pastor participating on more than 50 local, state, national and international mission trips. I've also been part of three church plants in Arlington, Colorado and Brazil. Most of all however, I am a Christ follower who desires to see the nations worship the one true God!

As the new coordinator for Mission 901, I want to help you fulfill the mission that God has placed before you by offering training and providing you with volunteers from across our state and nation. In the next few weeks I will be updating our Missions 901 website with new information concerning how I can help you and your church "bloom where God has planted you!" I would love to meet with you personally or you can check out our website at www.mission901.com, email me at danny@mid-southbaptist.com or call me at 901-786-4397.

Tutoring Help Needed

Christ Community-River Trace Church is in need of volunteers to help with their after-school homework ministry. They offer homework help every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 3:30-5:30 p.m. No experience or preparation needed - just be willing to assist the children with their homework. They serve American and refugee children from various countries. This ministry opens doors for gospel opportunities. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Darla Richardson at 850-502-9077. Tutoring ministry apartment address is 2265 W. River Trace #7. If you are not sure, but want to see it in action, you are welcome to come and observe.





ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE
acp survey

You should have received an Annual Church Profile (ACP) packet in the mail. Please take a moment and complete that short form and return it to us. You can email it to ashley@mid-southbaptist.com or fax it to 901-373-2992 or drop it in the mail to the address on page 1. We want to make this process as painless as possible. If you would prefer to complete the long form, let us know and we will send you a copy of it. Thank you for helping us maintain accurate records and making an impact for the Kingdom. If we can help you in any way, please let us know.



Perfecting Love Community Church Building Destroyed by Fire

On Monday, November 27, a fire broke out at Perfecting Love Community Church, causing at least \$140,000 in damage. Firefighters rushed to the church around 11:00 a.m.

The flames engulfed a portion of the building away from the main sanctuary. Firefighters said the fire damaged church offices, the kitchen, and fellowship hall.

"The fire quickly advanced to the roof and to the attic area," MFD Lt. Wayne Cooke said. "It vented itself through the roof; because of the safety and stability of the church, we pulled our firefighters out."

The cause of the fire is unknown at this time. No one was inside at the time, so no injuries are reported.

Please pray for Dr. Jason Mitchell and the church family as they clean up and rebuild. You and your church can help this sister church in the following ways:

- Hosting the Perfecting Gifts group two Saturdays a month for their rehearsals and mentoring.
- Hosting the Perfecting Gifts group summer camp.
- Donating to the rebuilding fund through one of the ways below.



MLK 50th Anniversary

April 4, 2018 marks the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. The MSBA will be putting together many different opportunities throughout the city for our churches to come together in unity. Watch the newsletter for future details of how you can be involved this effort.



WMU[®] HAPPENINGS

SAVE THE DATE

Sisters Who Care

Saturday, February 24, 2018
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Holy Temple Baptist Church
4590 New Allen Road, Memphis, TN 38128

African attire is encouraged.



Bivocational Ministers and Wives Retreat

January 25-27, 2018

Music Road Hotel and
Conference Center
303 Henderson Chapel Road
Pigeon Forge, TN

Cost: \$225 per couple
*Includes hotel, meals
and breaks*

Register online at
[https://tn.sbcworkspace.com/Pub/
Event/Register/55227889](https://tn.sbcworkspace.com/Pub/Event/Register/55227889)

*For more information, contact John
Parrott at jparrott@tnbaptist.org.*



March 4, 2018

Union University
1050 Union University Drive, Jackson, TN 38305

Worship Leader: Travis Cottrell
Englewood Baptist, Jackson TN

Rally Preacher: Dr. James Merritt
Crosspointe Church, Duluth, GA

In addition to the Main track, there is also a
Women's track and a Youth track.

Register online at
<http://www.uu.edu/events/WTER/>

*For more information, contact Ernest Easley at
eeasley@uu.edu.*

Germantown Baptist Church to Host Living Nativity

Make new Christmas memories this year at the Living Nativity and Bethlehem Village, December 7th through 10th at Germantown Baptist Church, 9450 Poplar Avenue, Germantown, 38139! Come see the true story of Christmas come to life with live animals, biblical characters & the greatest story ever told! The Bethlehem Village will feature activities and crafts for children, plus hot popcorn and warm refreshments. Living Nativity performances begin every 30 minutes.



Senior Adult Rally & Lunch Monday, February 19

Germantown Baptist Church
9450 Poplar Avenue, Germantown, 38139



MSBA Approved as member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability

The MSBA is excited to share about their new membership with ECFA. Founded in 1979, ECFA provides accreditation to leading Christian nonprofit organizations that faithfully demonstrate compliance with established standards for financial accountability, transparency, fundraising, and board governance. The Christ-centered ministries accredited by ECFA include churches, denominations, educational institutions, rescue missions, camps, and many other types of tax-exempt organizations.



Monday, April 9, 2018
4:00 -9:00 p.m.

\$10 per person includes dinner

Millington First Baptist Church
5010 West Union Road,
Millington 38053

Guest Speaker:
Dr. Kevin Ezell
President, NAMB



Weekly Pastor Prayer Time

Monday mornings at 10:45 a.m.

Fireside Room A
Bellevue Baptist Church
2000 Appling Road, Cordova, 38016



Former IMB Missionary & MSBA Great Commission Multiplier Called as Associational Missionary



Dear Mitch and Mid-South Baptists,

I apologize for not writing to you a few weeks ago. However, some matters are important enough to complete even if they are late. It would not be right to fail to put this important transition into writing.

I want to share what a blessing it has been to be part of the MSBA team. From the time we began dialoging together in June of 2016, I have greatly enjoyed the vibrant and significant discussions about making disciples. This has been both a learning laboratory and a reorientation for me. I do not take for granted the kindness and opportunity you offered me to serve with you. This was an especially helpful relationship for our transition back to the states after serving with the IMB for fifteen years. I know other colleagues who have not had the joys of being included in ministry roles like this. Thank you for trusting me with leading the staff Bible studies, these were special blessed times that enriched my own walk with the Lord. Our staff retreats, prayer times and informal interactions were an encouragement through some challenging days. I hope you realize that being part of this team has been very significant for positioning us for the future role where God is taking us. Thank you for having the vision and servant heart to plug someone like me into the team. I will continue to consider all of you my friends, and I plan to call on you for advice in my new role as Associational Missionary at the Beech River Baptist Association.

Officially I am resigning my role as the Great Commission Multiplier Coordinator effective at the Pastor's Conference on November 20, 2017. May the Lord bless you and the entire team as they continue to serve the Lord and Mid-South Baptists.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stan Wafler

